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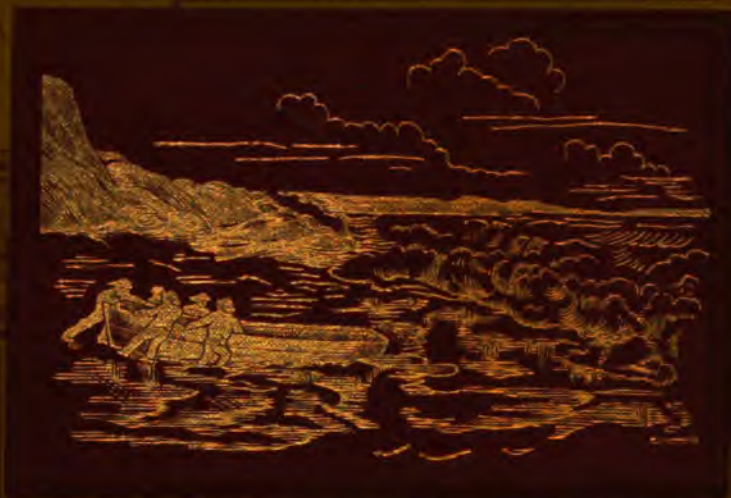
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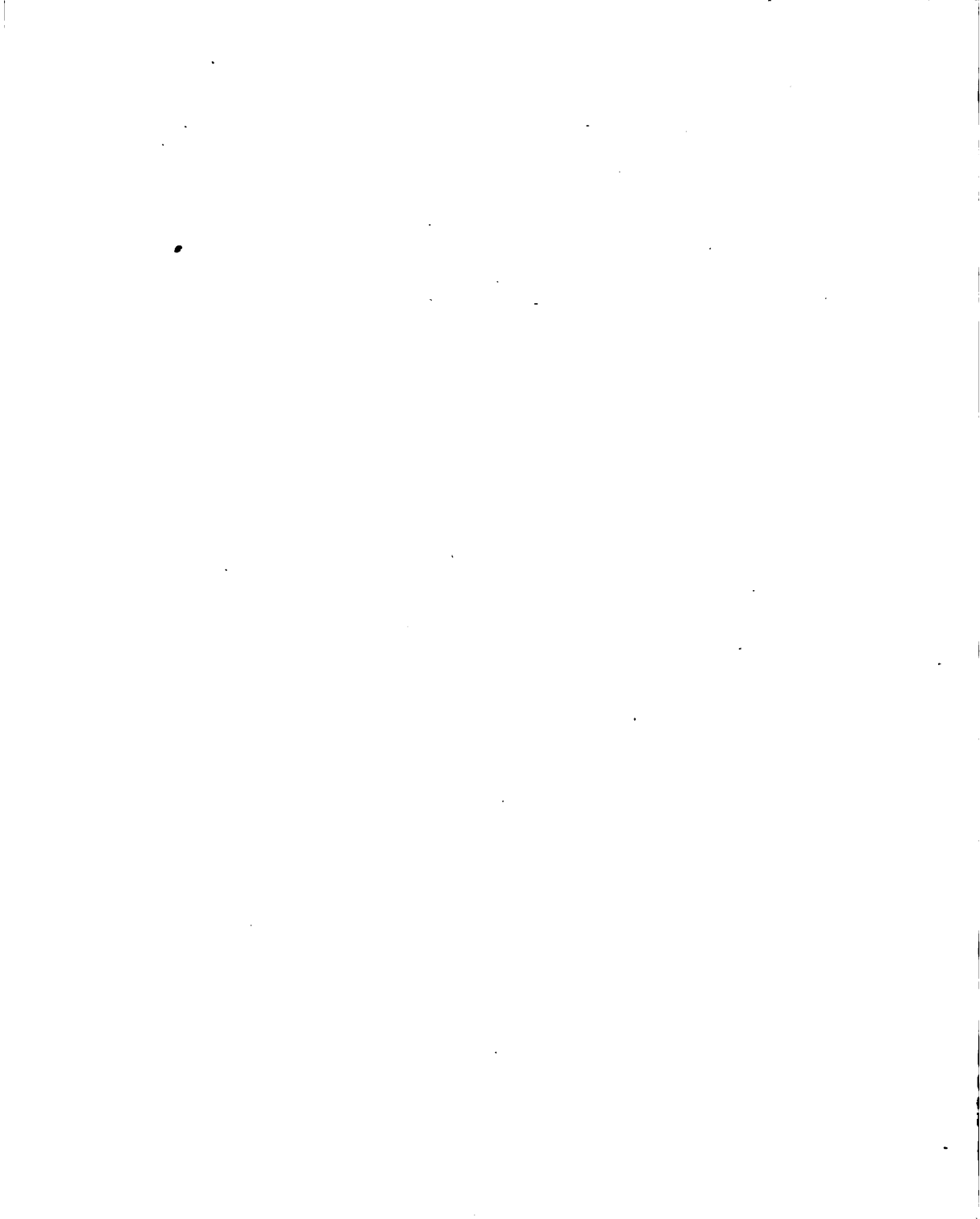






*YOUR MISSION*





# *YOUR MISSION*

BY *OC*  
*ELLEN M. H. GATES*  
1

WITH ILLUSTRATIONS BY  
*F. S. CHURCH, W. ST. JOHN HARPER*  
*and J. W. ALEXANDER*

NEW YORK  
*G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS*  
27 & 29 WEST 23d STREET  
1882

*M. S. M.*

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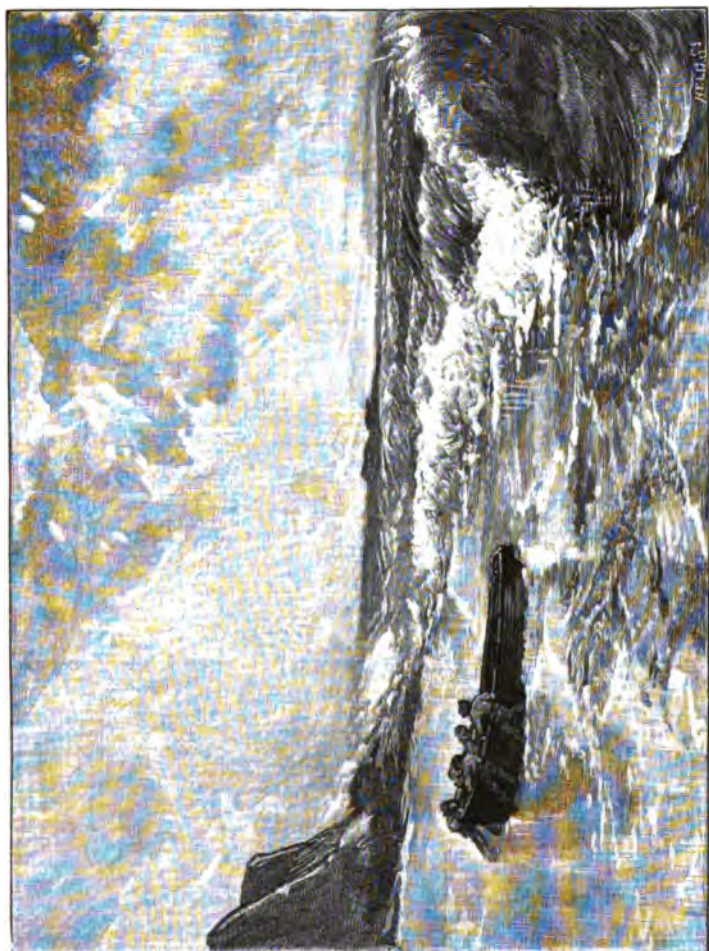
By G. P. PUTNAM'S SONS.

## *YOUR MISSION*

If you cannot on the ocean,  
Sail among the swiftest fleet,  
Rocking on the highest billows,  
Laughing at the storms you meet;  
You can stand among the sailors,  
Anchored yet within the bay,  
You can lend a hand to help them,  
As they launch their boats away.

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If you are too weak to journey,  
Up the mountain, steep and high,  
You can stand within the valley,  
As the multitudes go by ;  
You can chant in happy measure,  
As they slowly pass along,  
Though they may forget the singer,  
They will not forget the song.





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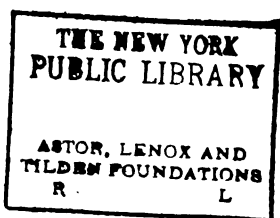
If you cannot in the harvest,  
Garner up the richest sheaves,  
Many a grain, both ripe and golden,  
Will the careless reapers leave ;  
Go and glean among the briars,  
Growing rank against the wall,  
For it may be, that their shadow,  
Hides the heaviest wheat of all.

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If you have not gold and silver,  
    Ever ready at command ;  
If you cannot toward the needy,  
    Reach an ever open hand ;  
You can visit the afflicted,  
    O'er the erring you can weep,  
You can be a true disciple,  
    Sitting at the Savior's feet.





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If you cannot in the conflict,  
    Prove yourself a soldier true ;  
If where fire and smoke are thickest,  
    There 's no work for you to do ;  
When the battle-field is silent,  
    You can go with careful tread,  
You can bear away the wounded ;  
    You can cover up the dead.







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**Do not then stand idly waiting  
For some greater work to do ;  
Fortune is a lazy goddess,  
She will never come to you ;  
Go and toil in any vineyard,  
Do not fear to do or dare,  
If you want a field of labor,  
You can find it anywhere.**





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